

Bangalore Mirror

ON SATURDAY

TEMP Max 33 | Min 21 | Humidity 74%

Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain

Sensex 54,853

Nifty 16,411

Gold 51,380

Silver 66,500

Dollar 76.91

Euro 94.95

GBP 94.94

Police yet to identify lorry that allegedly killed a food delivery person in a hit-and-run accident on Sarjapur road

GRIM TIPPER

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TWEETS @Bellie_Mirror

It is nearly two and a half months since a 27-year-old delivery person was killed in a hit-and-run accident on the Bengaluru-Sarjapur highway.

However, the police are yet to trace the tipper lorry despite eye-witnesses describing to the cops that the vehicle had a white bonnet and a grey coloured backside.

Ramesh Kumar, complainant in the case and brother of victim Kailash, alleged that Sarjapur police are now demanding the victims' kin to come forth with evidence for tracking down the truck that killed Kailash on February 26.

Kumar and his younger brother Kailash hail from a village in Jodhpur district, Rajasthan. Kumar recollected that he had purchased a brand new motorcycle for his brother as the latter was complaining of stomach pain after riding Kumar's old scooter for food deliveries.

"On February 18, I purchased a new bike
CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 >>



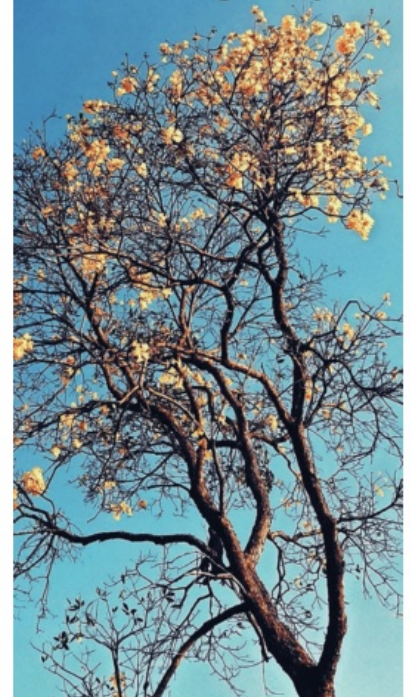
“On January 21, Kailash joined a major food delivery portal. On February 26, en route for a food delivery, his bike was hit from behind by a tipper lorry

—Ramesh Kumar, victim's brother

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Counting trees

BBMP's first tree census to begin in June



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3 THINGS TO DO



01 For all the mothers

Mompower360 is an initiative aimed at empowering moms to bloom into the best versions of themselves and in turn create stronger and more meaningful bonds with their families. As a tribute to mothers everywhere, they have kickstarted their first ever community engagement event for Mothers' Day that toasts to every mother and honours each other's journey, self-discovery & indomitable spirit. Come through for a candid conversation on motherhood, its challenges & how one can bloom through these challenges seamlessly. **Where:** Lulu Global Mall **When:** May 7, 3 30 pm onwards **Reservations:** 9113846862, Free



02 Melodies under the stars

Catch band Lagori perform live at Forum Koramangala Mall. Young, energetic, full of surprises and madness on stage, Lagori has, over the last four years, brought thousands to their concerts. This city-based band is made up of four unique musicians bringing their own flavours and styles to the table. The ensemble consists of Tejas Shankar: Vocals, Geeth Vaz: Electric/Acoustic Guitar/ Backing Vocals, Edward Rasquinha: Acoustic Guitar/ Backing Vocals, Vinyl Kumar: Drums/Shakers/Cajon/Backing Vocals. **Venue:** Forum Koramangala Mall **When:** May 7, 6.30 pm onwards

03 Adoption alert

If you're planning to give a furry one a forever home, check out the very first adult dog adoption by Indiranagar Canine Squad with HUFT Magarath Road. There will be five lovely family indie dogs with equally heartwarming stories. Vet Dr Champak Naik will also cover the benefits, necessities and misconceptions about adopting adult dogs in a talk at 1 pm.



Where: 27 Magrath Road, Ashok Nagar; **When:** May 7, 1.30 pm - 5.30 pm; **Contact:** 8197459111



The art of life

Model and Sandalwood actress Sindhu Gowda and Nidhi Rao inaugurated the Art and Craft mela at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath on Kumara Krupa Road, Bengaluru

PIC: KAUSHIK JN

New academic year sparks off fresh debate

Some schools want classrooms to reopen as early as May 16, while several parents, teachers want current vacations to be extended till May-end or later

KAUSHIK JN

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TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Schools in the city are set to start a new academic year in classrooms. However, now the big debate brewing is when should the schools restart.

Usually, it is the norm to begin the academic year by the last week of May or first week of June. While schools demand that the new academic year (2022-23) should start from May 16, many teachers and parents want the holidays till May-end as kids are on vacation and it is peak summer in the city.

Associated Managements of Primary and Secondary Schools in Karnataka (KAMS) General Secretary D Shashi Kumar said, "As per the government guidelines, the schools are to start from May 16. We have written to the Primary and Secondary Education Minister BC Nagesh requesting him not to extend the opening date beyond May 16 as it can be detrimental on student's academics."

However, many teachers state that they want to report to school only by May-end. "Unlike previous years when the schools would shut for summer break by March, this year, we had academic classes in the month of April also. Many schools have holidays only for the month of May. So, in this case, we want schools to start only by May-end or June 1 so that we can have a summer



Kids eligible for the jab are inoculated by health workers

break as well," Shiva Gowda, a teacher said.

Kamala S, a school teacher, also spoke on similar lines. According to her, the last two years have been a real challenge for teachers. Many lost their jobs and hybrid classes were a challenge. Many teachers had to take a big pay cut. In this scenario, teachers are already overburdened and they need rest. "However, summer break may not always mean rest for teachers as many are involved in other non-academic activities in the campus."

A school principal, however, said that with the threat of

the fourth wave or subsequent waves, there is still no guarantee whether the next academic year will continue to have all the classes. Hence, this was the perfect time to complete the portions. Kumar also rebuffed the argument that the schools should not start by May 16 due to summer time. "There are arguments that it is very hot in Bengaluru and hence schools were not conducive for students. But the intermittent rainfall has cooled temperatures. Moreover, for a student, weather will be the same, irrespective of the fact whether s/he is at home or school. So, it is better to be at



“There are arguments that it's hot for students to go to school. But the rain has cooled temperatures

— D Shashi Kumar, General Secretary, KAMS

school and learn something than staying at home."

In a different context, parents said that they hoped there will not be any new wave so that academic activities are not disrupted. "Not just the teachers but parents also had a tough time in the last two years. We had to sit at home and help kids learn besides doing our work. Many of the parents had to return to offices and it was very tough to leave kids at home for online classes."

"We hope schools function normally and the government also speeds up giving vaccination for 6-12-year-olds so that kids are protected," added Sheela S, a parent.

Mask mandate: It's not a fine situation

Offenders give marshals a trying time in absence of strict penalties. Will Bengalureans ever learn?

KAUSHIK JN



At Majestic Bus Stand, BBMP marshals monitor those flouting mask and covid protocols

Melvin Mathew
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

It's a situation government and health workers are all too familiar with, and one they dread. The struggle to get Bengalureans to wear a mask, and correctly at that.

As the test positivity rate remains at 2.64 per cent in the city, BBMP marshals are doing their utmost to enforce the mask mandate without imposing penalties.

Even after three waves of Covid, citizens are quite reluctant to mask up. Officials highlight that though the mandate for masks has been issued, it does not specify anything about penalisation.

As an initial step, marshals have started conducting awareness drives in markets hoping for behavioural change without imposing penalties.

BBMP Chief Marshal, Col (retired) Rajbir Singh said, "After the last festival, we intensified the awareness drive. Awareness was created through our mobile patrol units in various locations. Drives were conducted in front of jewellery shops and areas of religious celebration with mass gatherings. Primarily, we are not imposing fines but we are bringing to people's attention that the threat of Covid is imminent."

Currently, BBMP has turned its focus on areas with massive footfalls like the big markets of the city. "We are focusing on the markets in the city where the intensity of the footfall is very high. Marshals are making announcements using megaphones and also insisting people, vendors, and shopkeepers wear masks during their rounds," he said, adding that announcements will be continuous and will be made every 15-20 minutes.

"We have deployed 20 marshals in KR Market, five in National Market and four in Madiwala market."

While there was a high footfall in malls, rules are being followed carefully. Visitors to malls are not permitted inside without masks, added Singh.

To fine or not

Singh noted that citizens only argue with marshals when a fine is imposed.

BBMP marshals stopped imposing fines a month back but are awaiting directions now.

Some vendors in the market are yet to take their first dose even and we are trying to convince them

—Col (retired) Rajbir Singh, BBMP Chief Marshal

"When the threat was almost negligible, fining was stopped entirely and we are relying on awareness drives alone. While the circular mentioned about mask mandate, it does not say anything about fines."

Without fines, only 50 per cent of citizens are wearing masks. "While we spread awareness, there is no fear of the penalty. Earlier violators were penalised with a Rs-250 fine," said Singh.

Campaigning everywhere

BBMP marshals are mulling spreading awareness about Covid through FM channels as well. They also feel that apart from markets, it's required in bus stops and railways station which sees a lot of interstate travellers.

"Some vendors in the market have not even taken their first dose of the vaccine; we are encouraging them to get vaccinated. They are afraid of the consequences of taking vaccines and we are trying to assure them. We tell them that two doses and a booster dose will ensure more safety from the virus. We are also planning to set up vaccination drives for them," said Singh.

When will we learn?

With a few thousand people accounting for footfall in the city's big markets, it has become a challenge for marshals to keep a tally of mask violators.

"It has become difficult to record violations as KR Market has four - five gates with at least 10 thousand to 20 thousand walking in. Most violations are seen in KR Market, especially in the flower market. During festival season, large crowds come to the market but usually, crowds can be normally seen in the morning," said Nagraj, Supervisor and BBMP Marshal.

He added that some people continue to argue about the ineffectiveness of masks and they are taken to the station and advised on the need to wear masks.



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When BWSSB forgot their pipes, residents, pourakarmikas are left to deal with the consequences

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Care for a stroll around the Benniganahalli lake?

After delays over tree-cutting, BMRCL's planned development work that includes a 15-m footpath around lake is now likely to be done by September

I Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Good news: After two long years of waiting, residents near Benniganahalli lake are likely to get various facilities under lake development work by September. Due to the ongoing Metro work, BMRCL has undertaken to complete the lake development work at an estimated cost of Rs 2.5 crore. The project was delayed due to opposition from residents and lake activists over cutting of trees, which were eventually translocated. A 15-m footpath will come up all around the 10 acres of the lake area.

The rejuvenation work for Benniganahalli lake near Pai Layout was completed in 2018 at the cost of Rs 3 crore. "We had asked BMRCL to provide Rs 4 crore initially but settled on Rs 2.5 crore. Under the project, an entrance for Pai Layout will be constructed, a 15 m cobblestone walking/jogging track (on lake bund), two gazebos, a children's park spanning roughly 1,000 sq ft and an open gym, lighting, and security guards will be provided for. Since toilets are not permitted inside lake premises, we have asked for two temporary toilets to be installed. Unauthorised settlers will also be served notice. Once the encroachments are removed, fencing will be done both outside and inside the lake premises," said NH Subramanian, secretary of Benniganahalli Lake Trust.

But residents pointed out that that due to ongoing Metro work, the lake entrance has become inaccessible for Pai Layout residents. "Currently, residents are unable to enjoy the benefits of the rejuvenated lake as there is Metro work going on, blocking our way. Previously many people used to go to the lake prem-



A file photo of Benniganahalli lake; (below) The team that was behind lake development efforts



ises for walks. The path of the lake is also under work and is going to be replaced with cobblestones," added Subramanian.

Some residents are not too keen on cobblestoned walking path plan.

"We had suggested to BMRCL to use curbstone instead of cobblestone. Cobblestones are difficult to walk on and we wanted the lakes to retain their wild look," said Balaji Raghotham, a trustee of Benniga-

nahalli Lake Trust. In addition to an entrance to the lake for Pai Layout residents, they have also asked BMRCL to name the station after Benniganahalli Lake.

Speaking about the prior situation of the lake, Raghotham added, "The situation was pathetic. Now the lake looks like a lake as compared to the bowl of contaminated water that it used to look like. Sewage was flowing from the north side of the lake."

Lake activists also complained that trees that were translocated from the entrance of the lake to inside it, died. Residents had raised an objection to the cutting of 60 trees by BMRCL for road-widening towards the Old Madras Road. Following their protest, BBMP also had instructed BMRCL to relook the proposal.

BBMP-run centres to come under health dept

The Urban Primary Health Centres (UPHCs) and Community Health Centres (CHCs) currently under the Bengaluru civic agency's control will be taken over by the Karnataka Health and Family Welfare Department.

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), which had financial and administrative control over these health centres, will now be moved to the supervision of the health department, a statement from the health department said.

It further said it was Karnataka Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar's significant move to revamp primary healthcare in Bengaluru.

"As per the order issued by state government on Friday, a total of 51

health centres will be taken over by the health department. The 35 UPHCs listed under National Urban Health Mission, 14 unlisted UPHCs and two CHCs will now come under the purview of health and family welfare department," the statement said.

The staff recruited by BBMP and equipment procured by it will also be transferred to the Health and Family Welfare Department. The move is aimed at streamlining healthcare services across the state.

Sudhakar, in the statement, said the public healthcare services provided by government should be similar across all facilities be in UPHCs or CHCs.

"Whether it is urban or rural

“The 35 UPHCs listed under National Urban Health Mission, 14 unlisted UPHCs and two CHCs will now come under the purview of health dept

— State Government order

area, people should get quality healthcare services across the state. The move to bring back health centres under BBMP to the purview of Health Department will help us to integrate the health programmes of Centre and state government and ensure effective implementation," Sudhakar said.

The decision will also enable better management of PHCs and streamlining of administrative issues leading to improved service to citizens, especially the urban poor, he added.

E-Manas

Dr K Sudhakar also said the state's 'E-Manas' platform can be implemented nationwide for streamlining mental healthcare.

Karnataka had developed a comprehensive and innovative software platform for mental health called 'E-Manas' and launched it in June 2020 which consisted of over 12 projects to address mental health, the minister was quoted as saying in a statement issued by his office. — PTI

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Choking wet

OMBR Layout



Whenever it rains, the drains are clogged and water gets collected near 204,4th Main Road, OMBR Layout, near CMR College. Desilting of side drains needs to be taken up on a priority basis by BBMP.

Trash mound

Indiranagar



At this area in Indiranagar Stage 2 garbage has been dumped and is not getting cleared out. Residents are requesting authorities to take action before the pile becomes unmanageable.

Malleshpalya

Wrong step



This is Malleshpalya 5th Main Road which connects to Kagga-dasapura. The pavement has remained unusable for years. This is such busy road as there are four schools here; so a safe space to walk is needed urgently.

VK felicitates achievers from the Mysore region

Achievers from the Kaveri Valley



Achievers from the Mysore region were felicitated by Vijay Karnataka in Mysore. Sri Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji of the Adichunchanagiri Mutt, Sri Someshwara Natha Swamiji, Secretary, Adichunchanagiri, Dr. R. Balasubramaniam, member of the Central Capacity Building Commission felicitated the achievers.

I have made honest efforts to address the problems faced by the Brahmin community. The poor people from all sections have been provided with housing.

-D.T. Prakash

President, Madhuvana House Building Co-operative Society, Mysuru

This award will inspire us and also others to do their bit for the better of the society. It is highly appreciative that Vijay Karnataka has come forward to recognise achievers and felicitate them.

-Dr. Raghavendra Prasad M.D.

Managing Director, Bhamy's Group of Companies, Mysuru

Achievers are there everywhere. It is only that their work is not often recognized. Also there are only a few among them who have structured their life on their own and achieved success in it.

The men and women of eminence in the Mysore region were felicitated and presented with the Achievers of Karnataka award, an initiative by Vijay Karnataka.

Sri Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji of the Adichunchanagiri Mutt gave his blessings while Dr. R. Balasubramaniam, member of the Central Capacity Building Commission, presented the awards.

People from various sectors like Education, Business, Industry, Medicine and Social Service who have gone on to achieve success were felicitated. A special edition highlighting their



achievements was also released on the occasion. Sri Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji of the Adichunchanagiri Mutt lauded the initiative of Vijay Karnataka in recognizing the services of the unsung heroes of the society.

The awardees expressed their gratitude to Vijay Karnataka for recognising their service and felicitating them. Family members of the awardees were also present.

Sri Someshwara Natha Swamiji, secretary, Adichunchanagiri Mutt was also present. Mr. Sudarshan Channangihally, editor, Vijay Karnataka addressed the gathering while Mr. Itichanda Ramesh Uthappa, Chief of the Mysore bureau welcomed the

I have been practicing medicine for many years now. I have based my service on research and it feels good to be recognized for my service by Vijay Karnataka.

-Dr. V. Mohan Kumar

MBBS, MD- Physician and Diabetologist, Mysuru

It feels good to be recognized. It shows society is keeping an eye on us. Good work will certainly bring recognition. It has given me a feeling of accomplishment. I thank Vijay Karnataka for this initiative.

-S. Murthy

Proprietor, Rahul Convention Hall, Mysuru

Vijay Karnataka has done a tremendous job in selecting meritorious people for this award. It was inspiring to hear words of wisdom from the dignitaries on stage.

-B. Ugraiah

Managing Partner Hotel Ruchi The Prince, Mysuru

Receiving the award from Adichunchanagiri Swamiji was a very cherishable moment. I am really happy on behalf of the Pharma sector to have received this award

-K. Ramesh

MD, Ramesh Pharma, Mysuru

This award has made me more dedicated to service. The words of wisdom from the chief guest were very inspirational.

-L. Ravi

Secretary, Silicon City Academy of Secondary Education, Bengaluru

Making a fortune should not be the only goal in life. We have learnt from our elders to reach out to the needy. I have devoted a percentage of my earnings to social service.

-V.C. Ravi Kumar

MD, VCR Builders & Developers, Mysuru

This award has empowered us to do more for society. Feel particularly happy to have been recognized for my work on restoration of lakes.

-Dr. M.P. Varsha

Managing Trustee Credit - I Company, Mysuru

The concept behind such a program is laudable and I thank Vijay Karnataka for that. It was a befitting program which has enhanced our responsibility.

-M. Rajesh Kumar Jain

Architect, R-Leaf Group, Mysuru

People in BEML recall the way I have responded to their problems. Having got this award today has doubled my joy. This recognition has increased my responsibility.

-D. Narayan

AGM, BEML, Mysuru

We have been in the business of affordable housing and many people have benefited from this. Now this recognition has added to my happiness.

-Kiran N.

Proprietor G-9 Projects, Mysuru

This award is an inspiration for achievers. Thank organisers for recognising the services of many silent workers like me. Now the society expects more from us.

-S. Basavaraju

President Basava Marga Foundation, Mysuru

It is good to see so many achievers being felicitated and awarded. It increases the responsibility on us to do more. By doing so Vijay Karnataka has given a good message to the society.

-Vijay Ramegowda

President

Plotting for small industries in Mysuru

KSIIDC will develop industrial township to facilitate small and medium industries



No plots have been developed with a focus on small industries in Mysuru for years now

The new ten-lane Bengaluru-Mysuru highway may boost the industrial activities in Mysuru, but the facilities for developing new industries in Mysuru are lacking.

To fill the gap in infrastructure needs in Mysuru, the Karnataka State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (KSIIDC) is now prepared to develop an industrial township that focuses on small and medium industries. Though KIADB is involved in developing industrial areas, small-scale industries are not able to avail of the plots developed.

So this comes as a welcome change for small industries which are not getting any encouragement from KIADB for the last many years. It has not sanctioned any land for small industries in Mysuru district.

Such plots have not been allotted in Koorgalli in Mysuru since 2013. In 2017 there were no plots allotted in Immavu and Adakanahalli in Nanjanagud. In this back-

“We have identified 150 acres of land at two locations for developing Industrial township in Mysuru. We need over 50 acres more, so we are identifying that land

—MR Ravi, KSIIDC MD

ground, KSIIDC is prepared to develop an Industrial township of 150 acres in the district. Seventy acres of land has been identified for this purpose near Bannari Sugars and 30 acres of land near the TVS factory in Kadakola. Identification of more than 50 acres of land is in progress.

The land will be purchased directly from the farmers at market price. The industrial

plots from 20 guntas to 1 acre will be developed and also created with infrastructure facilities like roads, drinking water, and electricity facilities.

KSIIDC Managing Director MR Ravi said, “We have identified 150 acres of land at two locations for developing Industrial township in Mysuru. We need more than 50 acres, so we are verifying the lands.”

KSIIDC President Dr. Shailendra K Beldale said the industrial township is being developed to facilitate industrialists along with highway and airports. “The space has been identified and the township will be developed very soon,” Beldale said.

MSME Council General Secretary Sureshkumar Jain said, “In Mysuru the industrial plots have not been allotted from more than a decade. The lack of development of new industrial townships is a problem. It is a very good development that KSIIDC is developing a new township in Mysuru.”

—Prakash VL

IN BRIEF



A logo of the EV expo and Green Energy Summit 2022 was released at BIEC on Friday

EV expo in town

The EV Expo and Green Energy Summit 2022 was inaugurated at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre on Friday and will go on till Sunday. The logo was unveiled on Friday. EV Expo and Green energy summit 2022 Bangalore, Expo & Conference EV Expo Bangalore brings to the Electric Vehicle industry the opportunity to showcase, see and understand the latest in electric vehicles, components, and services for convenience and environment-friendly transportation of passengers and goods. The exhibition ensures that the proper national and international players exhibit their technology and products to the proper audience: the owners and operators, the manufacturers & traders. The event was presided by Neha Bandyopadhyay (Dada Saheb Phalke winner), Harshika Poonacha (Kannada Actress), AR Nagesh (President, KA EV manufacturers association), Venkatesh Gowda KR (Secretary, KA EV manufacturers association), Narendra Holla, Radhakrishna Holla, Prakash Gowda and other representatives from EV manufacturing companies were present.

High Court breather to Xiaomi Tech

The Karnataka High Court has stayed the Enforcement Directorate's April 29 order under which it seized Rs 5,551.27 crore from Ms Xiaomi Technology India Pvt Ltd.

The ED had initiated action against the company for alleged contravention of provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999.

Justice Hemant Chandangoudar on Thursday stayed the ED order dated April 29, subject to the condition that the petitioner operates the bank accounts which are seized under the impugned order for the purpose of carrying out the day to day activities of the company.

The matter has been posted for further hearing to May 12.

—IANS

‘Oppn throwing PSI exam scam probe off-track’

Karnataka Home Minister Araga Jnanendra on Friday said the opposition is desperately trying to mislead the investigation into the police sub-inspector recruitment scam with their statements as “their involvement is coming to the fore”.

He was replying to a query on Congress leader Siddaramaiah's allegation at a press conference on Thursday that the size of the scam was around Rs 300 crore.

“Former chief minister Siddaramaiah has got the freedom of speech. He can say Rs 200 crore, Rs 300 crore or Rs 3,000 crore but he runs away when we ask him to furnish the proof he has. Priyank Kharge (Congress MLA) doesn't come even after a notice was served to him (to appear before the CID),” Jnanendra told reporters here.

The Congress stalwart had also demanded a judicial probe saying that the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) was not competent to investigate the matter given the alleged involvement of police officers, ministers and top politicians in the scam.

Jnanendra charged that the Congress leaders were only trying to mislead the investigation.

“In the given circumstances, the only thing



File photo of PSI candidates gathered to protest against decision to hold a re-exam, at Freedom Park in Bengaluru

they know is to mislead the direction of the investigation. It's nothing but some Congress leaders who are trapped. Their involvement is coming to fore, due to which they are giving such statements,” the Home Minister said.

He charged that Congress leaders have also resorted to defaming “our upright (Higher Education) minister Dr C N Ashwath Narayan”.

“We will make sure that those involved in the wrongdoings in the PSI recruitment scam should think twice before indulging in such practices in future

—Araga Jnanendra, Home Minister

The Home Minister said the government was ensuring the investigation is done independently without any influence.

“Let Congress leaders talk whatever they want. We will get it investigated properly. We will go to the root cause of the issue. We will make sure that those involved in the wrongdoings in the PSI recruitment scam should think twice before indulging in such practices in future,” Jnanendra said.

Congress' Karnataka unit chief D K Shivakumar had earlier this week suspected the involvement of Dr Ashwath Narayan's relative in the scam, which the latter rubbished saying these were baseless allegations as part of a smear

campaign against him.

Meanwhile, former Bengaluru police commissioner and Aam Aadmi Party leader Bhaskar Rao said the ruling BJP has been maintaining that such scams had taken place during the Congress regime as well instead of taking action against those bigwigs who are involved in the scam. The allegations and counter allegations are only to silence people and make them forget the issue after some time, Rao said at a press conference on Friday in Bengaluru.

He said if a former chief minister of the state is saying that the size of the scam is Rs 300 crore then that should be investigated.

If a former chief minister's statement has no value, then will the government respect the statements of a common man? All that the government has done is transferring an additional director general of police. If the ADGP opens his mouth, then both the political parties will land in soup,” Rao told reporters.

The government has annulled the PSI recruitment exam after large-scale irregularities came to the fore. Over 35 people including a BJP leader Divya Hagargi, the principal of a college in Kalaburagi, have been arrested.

—PTI

Want To Buy Property Before You Turn 40?

20s and 30s are the best time to plan towards owning your home. Here are a few tips to help

Leena Mudbidri
 Timesproperty@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

As per an Aspiration Index 2021 report by a fintech company, 1,704 working professionals (aged between 22 and 45 years) from six metros and 20-plus tier 2 cities in India, shared several life goals, which were segmented into five broad areas—wealth, health, relationships, fame and personal growth. Most notably, the Indian youth's aspiration to own a house formed a whopping 47 per cent making it a top priority, along with the plan to boost retirement funds at 35 per cent and insurance at 31 per cent. So, how would you set the road map to your future home if you're in your 20s or 30s?

Money matters

Unless you have a financial plan, it could be a tough road to the door of your new home. To build substantial funds, you will need to move every extra bit of your income into different investment instruments that earn you high interest. Compare the best ones—ranging from mutual funds to fixed deposits (FDs), recurring depos-

its (RDs), and so on. A few mutual fund investments even offer 15-20 per cent interest. However, mutual funds are affected by market fluctuations, unlike an FD or RD. On the other hand, mutual funds serve as a hedge against inflation in the long term. And the positive side to owning a home is that it will appreciate in value. This means, higher the risk, greater the reward; and the younger you are, the better poised you are to take on a financial burden such as investing in a house.

If your career graph is on a high and you are aware of the potential increments and incentives, factor in this too. This will help you decide the timeline to pay off any borrowings on your home.

Do some homework

Finding a house takes months, sometimes a couple of years—so begin now. Narrow down the options based on your priorities such as proximity to your parents' house, office, health-care facilities, etc. Remember that a house away from the city will be much more affordable than one within established locations. Identify your priorities in relation to the floor area, number of rooms, and ameni-



ties you are looking for.

Fix the budget

This is one of the most difficult aspects of a home purchase, but a pivotal one that will decide how smooth or challenging your homebuying journey will be. Once you've identified a few homes and the cost factor, the next step is to estimate affordability. Analyse your monthly income and all expenses. This will show you how much you are left with every month. If you do plan on taking a

home loan to fund your new house, you will know exactly how much equated monthly instalment (EMI) you can afford to pay. Avoid going for a home that is beyond your budget.

Compare home loans

Maintain a ready reckoner on the various banks and their home loan offers. Analyse all the product descriptions and charges including the pre-approval of loans, floating or fixed rate of interest, processing fees, pre-closure charges, late payment

fees, and other factors.

Down payment

A bank loan comprises about 85-90 per cent of the home value; the rest is deemed as down payment. A home loan is issued only after you deposit the down payment. For this, you will need to dip into your savings. For example, if the house you've chosen to buy costs around Rs 60 lakh and your bank is expected to give you 90 per cent of the loan, then you will need to make the down payment of at least Rs 6 lakh to the bank. So, if you have started saving at least a lakh every year from the age of 25—over and above your other expenses—then you can afford to buy your home, which is worth Rs 60 lakh, when you're 31.

A good credit score

At present, banks and lending institutions look at your spending pattern and financial ability to pay off any debts—credit card dues, EMIs and bills—on time. If you have a credit score of above 750, it not only makes you eligible for a home loan but also gives you greater scope to negotiate with your lender for a lower interest rate. **Source - Mumbai Mirror**



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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO



FOR AUSPICIOUS TIMES

This was taken during Gana homa. I took a picture of the lighted lamp in the backdrop of the ritualistic fire.

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com

The picture was clicked by
BM reader **Sandhya Krishnamurthy**

DID YOU KNOW?



In Bengaluru, the High Court functions out of a red-painted brick building known as the Attara Kacheri, located opposite the Vidhana Soudha, the seat of the legislature of Karnataka.

It is a wide two-storied building of stone and brick, painted red, in the neoclassical style of architecture. It was constructed between 1864 and 1868. In terms of history, The Kingdom of Mysore had a secretariat of eighteen administrative departments, created in 1701 by Devaraja Wadiyar II. The secretariat was called Attara Kacheri, with Attara meaning 'eighteen' and Kacheri meaning 'department' in Hindustani.

When the secretariat shifted to the building, which was called the Public Offices, in 1868, the building itself began to be called Attara Kacheri. The building continued to house the High Court and secretariat after independence. The court was renamed the High Court of Karnataka when the name of the state of Mysore was changed to Karnataka in 1973.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAP THE CHATTER

where Bangaloreans speak their mind

Which eatery/restaurant reminds you of old Bangalore and why?



Manjunath, Interior designer
Vidyarthi Bhavan in Gandhi Bazaar for Masala Dosa would be on top of the list for a restaurant that is synonymous with old Bangalore.



Dr NK Satya Pal Sharma,
BM Reader

Khaali Dose of Dwarka Bhavan/Hotel Dwarka on Bull Temple Road, and full meals served on a silver plate at MTR Lalbagh are surely the famous eateries from the good old days that still exist with the same taste and popularity.



TJ Phillips, BM Reader

I remember Gundappa hotel near Sri Dharmaraya Swamy Temple, Cubbonpet, is still very popular for its ghee products comprising sweets and khara mixtures; till date, no other shop can compete with its products.



Deeksha Pradeep, Student

One eatery that reminds me of old Bangalore days is Vidyarthi Bhavan. Its dosas are till date, loved by all. You can never get bored of eating here.



Joseph F Benedict,
Consulting engineer

Koshy's still attracts people who are well-versed with the restaurant's menu and the style of services. When I was small, it was a coffee house serving bread and butter for breakfast. Even now, it reminds me of old Bangalore.



Chetan Singh, BM reader

MTR or Mavalli Tiffin Rooms started in 1924 still reminds us of old Bangalore. Since 1975, as a kid, I have been going there. Their dishes like Rava Idly, Masala Dose, Bisi Bele Bhat, & the coffee symbolise traditional and old Bangalore.

SPEAK TO US

What can citizens & authorities do to ensure streeties do not suffer in this weather?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

When BWSSB forgot their pipes

Vaishnavi Gopalraj
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

For months now, pipes for installing underground sewer lines have been lying next to a house at Rathana Singh Layout, Kaval Byrasandra. The reason? Civic authorities simply forgot to take them away.

Residents say that around 1.5 months back, Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) had taken up the work of laying sewer lines. Once the new pipes were laid, the old pipes were removed from the ground and placed on the ground. Even after 1.5 months, the pipes are still lying there.

Residents say that they took up the issue with BWSSB authorities and requested them to remove the pipes within a week's time but nothing has been done so far.

It has been more than a

month now since there has been no word from them since the local authorities' officials have been inaccessible for weeks and the area's citizens are starting to feel that their problem will never be solved due to irresponsible management by BWSSB.

"The parking space has been taken up by the pipes; I have to park my vehicle next to the street while crossing a street. There is an uneven road where I nearly suffered an accident," Sharma, a resident, said.

"The pipe is placed right in the middle of a busy residential area. The general public has already made this their primary garbage disposal site and it regularly gets clogged up and messy, attracting flies which can then lead to a number of unhygienic problems including those posed by dead rats and cats inside the pipe."

It's pretty disconcerting to have all these blockages in the front of the house, says Jose, a



Old pipes take up valuable parking space and residents complain that it collects trash and invites pests

resident of the area.

Not just residents, pourakarmikas also have to bear the brunt of the situation. One of the rag-pickers told this newspaper that they have to go through a sewage pipe just to get the trash lodged between

two pipes because the residents "do not want things lying around for people in their apartment buildings".

We also have to deal with dead rats or even seeing rodents move within piles of garbage, complained one worker.

Counting our trees

BBMP will sign MoU with GKVK to conduct first-of-its-kind tree census

Garima Prasher
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) much-awaited tree census is finally getting started in June. As per the BBMP officials, the forest wing of the Palike will soon be signing a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Forestry, Gandhi Krishi Vigyan Kendra (GKVK), for the tree survey.

The first of its kind census has been delayed so far due to shortage of manpower. The Palike kicked off the process and surveyed around 18,000 trees in public areas, such as roads and parks before the census came to a grinding halt.

"The census has been delayed due to a shortage of manpower. This is the reason we decided to rope in GKVK. BBMP forest wing has already recorded 18,000 trees in the city in 2021-22. However, it will be taken over by the department of forestry at GKVK from now on," said a senior BBMP official.

As per an estimate, there are about four crore trees in the city.

"We have submitted our first report on the process to BBMP as per the high court's direction. We are in the process of creating a team and will soon begin with the second phase of the preparations. It is a big project and requires meticulous planning. We are taking help from experts in the field and the census is expected to start



So far BBMP forest wing has recorded 18,000 trees in city in 2021-22

"The census has been delayed due to manpower shortage. This is the reason we decided to rope in GKVK"

—A BBMP official

in two weeks," said Dr. Rajendra Prasad, vice-chancellor, GKVK.

According to GKVK, an MoU will soon be signed between the two parties and work on ground will begin immediately after.

"The census will be conducted scientifically. We will be using GPS and will geocode the trees to create a digital treemap of the city. So far, such an elaborate census has not been taken up anywhere else in the country. It is a huge task. Imagine counting trees across all 198 wards and mapping more than four crore trees. It takes a lot of preparatory work," said Dr C

Nagaraj M, ex-member of the Tree Expert Committee.

The census will look at various aspects such as tree species, growth parameters of the tree, and carbon sequestration potential of various species and will also analyze suitable tree species for the city. Trees will also be monitored for damage and disease.

The Karnataka State Remote Sensing Application Center (KSR-SAC) will also be roped in to assist the process with various technological advances.

The Palike had earlier tied up with the Institute of Wood Science and Technology (IWST) to conduct the census, however, the contract was canceled shortly after. IWST had backed out and reasoned that it was not able to get the required number of volunteers to conduct the census. The institute cited outbreak of covid-19 as the prime reason.

Cloudy with a chance of cool vibes

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TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

Bengaluru may receive rainfall for a day or two. According to meteorologists, it is likely to be a cloudy day in the city on Saturday as well with one or two spells of rainfall. However, they have predicted strong surface winds at a few places. Interestingly, due to rainfall for the last few days, the city's temperature has dropped significantly. On Thursday, the city recorded a maximum of 31.2 degree Celsius which was 2.3 degree Celsius below normal while it was one degree Celsius lesser than normal at night with 20 degree Celsius being recorded. The night temperature saw a big drop of 2.6 degree Celsius at HAL airport.

Meteorologists from India Meteorological Department (IMD) said there has been rainfall in many parts of the State especially in coastal and south interior parts. The highest rainfall was from Hassan, Dharwad and Chitradurga four cm each. Kalaburagi recorded a maximum of 40.2 degree Celsius which was 0.6 degree Celsius lesser than normal. Temperature was normal for the season elsewhere.



This is the scene of a road in Whitefield after just one spell of rain

A trough lies from Madhya Pradesh till Tamil Nadu. A cyclonic circulation is also present over South Andaman sea. Under the influence of the cyclonic circulation over South Andaman Sea and neighbourhood, a Low Pressure Area (LPA) has formed over South Andaman Sea and adjoining southeast Bay of Bengal. The associated cyclonic circulation extends up to mid-troposphere levels and

Night temperature saw a big drop of 2.6 degree Celsius at HAL airport



it is very likely to move northwards and intensify into a depression during the next 48 hours. Heavy to very heavy rainfall at isolated places is very likely over Andaman & Nicobar Islands till May 8 because of this system and fishermen have been asked not to venture into Andaman Sea during next three days; into southeast and central Bay of Bengal during next five days. The low-pressure area formed over the South Andaman Sea on Friday is likely to intensify into a cyclonic storm and reach the Andhra-Odisha shores early next week.

(Inputs from agencies)



RAJMOHAN SUDHAKAR

EVER CHANGING MOODS

Write to him at c-rajmohan.sudhakar@timesgroup.com

Caught in a media blur

Maybe, you would like to believe that one of your all-time favourite Hollywood actors did not allegedly terrorise and tear into the undergarments of his partner who's half his age, and cavity-searched her for hidden cocaine, or at one time, allegedly penetrated her with a bottle in his 'drug-induced, drunken debauchery', when the duo were dating before their marriage, some time in the middle of the last decade.

If justice can only be delivered by the world turning a humanity of voyeurs peeking into the sadistic fantasies of celebs, so be it — media has truly come of age to jurisprudence through reality TV now.

Just when the world was coming to grips with Elon Musk's town square-for-all charade with the man self-proclaimed as the quintessential representative of global citizenry, Amber Heard, ex-wife of Johnny Depp, appeared in the witness box in the ongoing post-divorce defamation trial and testified about the transgressions of her 'almost-always intoxicated' ex-husband. Not only is the trial the most successful media distraction in recent times, the case reveals the blurring boundaries between reality TV and real-life tragicomedy.

The layered nature of this trial — rock star-like aura of a musician-turned-actor, fame, celebrity, drug abuse, a relationship straddling two generations, domestic abuse, allegations of violence — has all the ingredients of a masala potboiler that is opportune for a fading star purportedly caught in a web of enablers. Even this beyond-belief, violation of a trial, in all probability, Depp is likely to lose, as a visibly weeping Heard recollects the violent episodes she says she endured with the Pirates of the Caribbean star.

Though a Washington Post 2018 op-ed written by Heard was the springboard for Depp and his lawyers to argue that the actor's fortunes dwindled after the publication of the said article, the trial is now seemingly exposing an allegedly violent individual beneath the persona of Depp, a person we knew until now as a flamboyant figure.

The participatory media circus at play where the rich want the poor to subscribe to the former's deeply personal affairs and even monetise the same in times of global penury, not to mention the gross misconduct of the celebrity pair in question, high on alcohol, drugs and fame as revealed in the defamation trial, is absolutely repulsive and unethical.

In the meantime, back home, perhaps, you would also like to think it is not true that India was ranked 150 out of 180 countries in the global press freedom index even as the prime minister refused to entertain media queries in Germany to the amusement of a



Deutsche Welle journalist — it is unusual for a visiting dignitary/head of state not to host a joint press briefing with his counterpart after signing so many key deals, the German journalist reflected in a tweet. The fact that Germany has a new chancellor after so long makes it even more critical that the pair address the media, representing the world's largest democracy and Europe's foremost and future-ready economy.

The aforementioned, sadly, is the new normal — one a personal account of celebrity trauma presented to you as a live streaming trial: an ultra realist televised drama about the fallout of an ex-star couple. The other, on how evasive is accountability in governance in the age of communication and big tech.

Both these pieces of information are made available to the public by the media — print, broadcast along with digital or social networks. Awry media discourse can break democracies or malignantly calibrate the evolutionary trajectory of humans or even the planet if allowed to be hijacked by moneyed corporations, especially so in the world's largest democracy.

The freedom of press taken for granted by the powers that be in cases such as the Depp-Heard trial or Sushant Singh Rajput's death and the subsequent media fiasco, is absent when it comes to dissemination of facts on the state of the nation, especially of blatant and continuing excesses of elected representatives, their responsibilities and duties.

Barring a few Nordic countries, press freedom is at stake the world over or reduced to reality television playing on the emotional vulnerabilities of the viewer/reader even as it continues to be crushed in the UK and US, major economies with supposedly high regard for media as an inevitable element in democratic discourse. Media has played a decisive role in moulding the developmental and economic course of these nations and continues to do so amid immense pressure from power centres.

It is critical, as the world remembers the ordeal of Julian Assange in upholding media freedom, we in India must repeatedly remind our lawmakers about the controversial detentions and open harassment of journalists. It is no shocker that India is now pushed to the far end of the spectrum — in fact, 'a dangerous country for journalists'.

The fatal delivery

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for my brother after taking a loan from a few of my friends; the bike cost me Rs 92,000. On January 21, Kailash had joined a major food delivery portal for work. On February 26, while he was en route for a delivery, his bike was hit from behind by a tipper lorry," Kumar told Bangalore Mirror.

A few eye-witnesses at the spot immediately made a phone call to Kumar so that he could at least speak to his brother who had suffered griev-

ous injuries and blood loss. Eye-witnesses told the police that the tipper lorry and a mini-goods truck were overtaking Kailash's motorcycle, and in order to avoid the mini-goods truck, the tipper lorry had swerved to the extreme left hitting Kailash and his bike from behind. The hit-and-run accident happened near Yamare village on Bengaluru-Sarjapur road around 3:10 pm. Eye-witnesses also told the cops that they had seen the tipper lorry speed away, instead of stopping at the spot.

Police registered a case under IPC section 304 A, and 279, for causing accidental death due to criminal negligence and rash, negligent driving, initiating investigation; but have not been able to gather leads on the trucks' whereabouts. The cops have been struggling now for two and half months to identify the tipper lorry. They claimed they were not sure whether the same lorry had hit and killed the victim.

Kumar, after performing the last rites of his brother in Rajasthan, returned to Bengaluru and has been regularly following up with Sarjapur

police on the fatal crash. However, he was not receiving any positive response.

"There is a weigh-bridge, just near the spot of the accident, that has a CCTV camera. Police told me that since the weigh-bridge staff had not paid the BESCOM bill, KEB had removed the fuse disconnecting the power supply. So there was no power for the CCTV to function or DVR to work at the time," Kumar pointed out.

"There is also a hardware showroom adjacent to the accident spot. It has a CCTV camera. The vehicle is seen passing that stretch seconds before the accident. There are also a

few shops such as a garage and a welding centre nearby. People at these establishments had seen my brother passing through and getting hit by the tipper lorry," Kumar added.

As Kumar repeatedly approached the police to inquire, they are now demanding Kumar himself bring forth the evidence to prove that it was the same tipper lorry that had hit and killed his brother.

An officer from Sarjapur police station said, "There is no clear evidence that the lorry had hit the bike from behind; we cannot conclude the case based on assumptions."

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I, THOMAS FERNANDEZ, S/o. RICHARD FERNANDES residing at No.28, Belle Vista, 9th Cross, 2nd Floor, Phase 1, Reliable Residency, Harlur Main Road, Bangalore 560102 have changed my name to THOMAS FERNANDES vide affidavit dated 04.05.2022 sworn before notary B V Nagabhu shana, B.lore

I, Anupama Narayan, Residing at No.22/1, Flat No. G2, Shivaganga Royale Apartment, Muneshwara Block, Bengaluru- 560026 have changed my name to ANUPAMA SRINIVASA RAO NARAYAN vide affidavit dated 05.05.2022 Sworn before notary: K. S. Nataraja, Bangalore

I Siju Thomas Thomas S/O, Thomas Ninan R/o Villa No 19, Mims Crescenta, Kannamangala Main Road, Kadugodi, Bengaluru-560067 have changed my name to Siju Thomas for all purposes.

I, Prabhakar S Savitha K R/o # 107 Bettanapalya Kengeri Ho Ramohalli Post Bangalore - 560060 have changed my minor son's name from Manvith S Gowda P to Rakshith Gowda P for all purposes.

I, Shikha Devi W/O, Amit Tiwari R/o #78 1st Main Road 3rd Cross Sri Balaji Layout Kenchanahalli Yelhanka Sri Balaji Layout Kenchanahalli Road have changed my name to Shikha Mishra for all purposes.

I, Padte Divya Yatin D/O, Yatin Anant Padte R/o 3032, Tower 3, Prestige Sunnyside Oak, Bhoganhalli have changed my name to Divya Yatin Padte for all purposes

I Kumara Ramappa Ramapura S/O, Ramappa R/o No 69, Ramapura, Somwarpet Taluk, Kodagu District-571232 have changed my name to Kumar Ramappa Ramapura

I, ADITHYA, S/o, MUKUNDAN residing at No. 4122, Sobha Valley, V Legacy Road, Hoskerekhalli, Bsk 3rd Stage, Bangalore 560085 have changed my name to ADITYA MUKUNDAN vide affidavit dated 06.05.2022 sworn before notary B V Nagabhu shana, B.lore

I, SREELATHA W/o Padmanabha H.H residing at No.2, 5th Cross, 2nd Main, 2nd Stage, Okalipuram, Bangalore- 560021 have changed my name to SREELATHA K.G vide affidavit dated 06.05.2022 sworn before notary C.K Anupama, Bangalore.

I Vicky Kishore Doshi S/O, Kishore Doshi R/o Smr Vinay Endeavour, Flat 911, 278 U, 6 Itpi Main Road, Hoodi Circle, Bangalore-48 have changed my name to Vicky Doshi



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Black spot erasers are on duty 24/7

BBMP marshals extra vigilant to keep Mahadevpura free of garbage dumps

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

As garbage being dumped on the roads continues to be one of the major problems in the city, in Mahadevpura zone authorities are cracking down on this menace strictly. The marshals are on their toes, taking measures and fining violators.

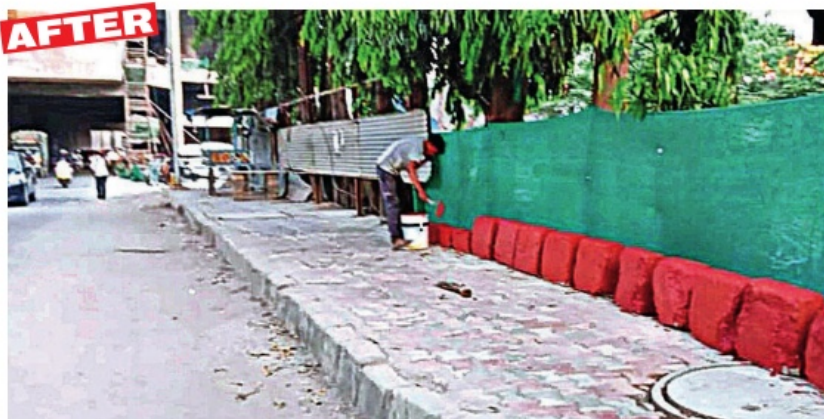
From the recent report of penalty collection in Mahadevpura zone, amongst the 17 wards, the ward with the highest collection of fines reported is Horamavu with 104 cases booked, on garbage disposal on the roads with Rs 18,500 collected. Next, 99 cases booked in KR Puram with Rs 11,001 in fines collected, further Basvanpura with 93 cases at Rs 10,401. Even wards like Rammurthy nagar, Hoodi, Kadugodi had high number of cases reported. A total of 1,192 cases are booked with Rs 2,09,775.51 fines collected in one month.

A large number of citizens blame the BBMP for not carrying out frequent garbage collection, but there are many residents who are unaware and tend to throw the garbage on the road.

Some of the residents point out that with their work schedule, it gets difficult for them to keep the bins outside for collection by auto tippers and as the garbage bin tends to pile up, the citizens have no option but to dump the garbage in some corner of the locality.

The marshals have been vigilant at most of the black spot areas and have been frequently fining every individual of Rs 1,000 for garbage dumping and are monitoring it 24/7. Some of the core reasons given by the residents are that those living in apartment complexes find it difficult to come down and hand over the garbage to auto tippers. While some state that it gets difficult for them to segregate dry and wet waste and the mixed waste is not accepted by the collectors. And others said that the collection van should come at a time as per their convenience.

Mahadevpura zone also has been car-



At several areas, residents got together under the clean street challenge and cleaned up black spots and beautified them

rying out collection of waste in commercial areas during the night so that the commercial establishments do not dump their waste on the roads.

At times when the garbage is dumped, in order to know the violators, the names on the boxes are checked upon and if name, address or even contact numbers of the person is available, they are tracked down. The marshals or health inspector then go to the residents house and fine the individuals, or even check it through the nearby CCTV cameras.

The maximum number of fines are only for solid waste management. Other fines for spitting, open defecation, plastic

dumping, urinating have been very minimal in the zone. The number of fines for plastic has been only Rs 3,000 with the Garudacharpalya ward resident fined on the same.

Other fines are for mask violation, for which Rs 5,250 has been collected from different wards from the maskless persons.

In the clean street challenge, the residents had been going to spots to check on the garbage dumps, after which they would inform the officials and get it cleaned. Recently many spots had been cleared under this challenge. Many blackspots have been cleared and the area beautified in different localities.

Woman thrashed by brother over garage row

Bellie Thomas
bellie.thomas@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @Bellie_Mirror

A 27-year-old woman has accused her brother of having assaulted her for giving her scooter for servicing to another garage after it was fitted with faulty spares at her brother's garage. The victim Divya Kumar, a salon worker and a resident of Kammanahalli, needs her vehicle for whenever she is called for salon services at home.

In her complaint to the Banaswadi police, Divya stated that she was assaulted with an iron rod and a screwdriver on her head by her brother Shoaib who wanted to know which garage she later took her vehicle to.

Man attacks sister for taking her vehicle to another garage after service at his garage was unsatisfactory

Divya in her complaint to the police stated that she was adopted by her aunt long ago and she recently came to know of her brother Shoaib who was running a garage in the same area. After having a few conversations with each other, Divya decided to give her scooter for service to Shoaib. After the servicing was done, the vehicle started showing problems within two days. She called up her brother and told him that the scooter was giving her problems and it was affecting her work.

Shoaib said he would look into it and billed her Rs 9,500 for changing a few spares. Divya started using the bike and again it was showing problems.

This time, she took the scooter to another garage where the mechanic told her that the wrong spares had been fitted to the vehicle. Divya contacted Shoaib over phone and accused him of cheating her. A furious Shoaib is said to have come to Divya's house with an iron rod and screw driver and demanded she tell him which garage had she gone to. He is said to have attacked her in the ensuing row. Divya sustained cut injuries to her head and required sutures after which she approached the Banaswadi police. Based on her complaint, the police have taken up a case and are investigating.

Yediyurappa hints at rejig before May 10

Karnataka BJP strongman BS Yediyurappa on Friday hinted that the much-awaited expansion or reshuffle of the Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai-led cabinet in the state, may take place before May 10.

The former chief minister said Prime Minister Narendra Modi will soon take a decision in this regard after discussion with Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who had visited the city earlier this week.

"...information has come that in three to four days after discussing with everyone. It might be done before May 10, at the earliest the Prime Minister after discussion with Amit Shah will decide on cabinet expansion and other things," Yediyurappa said in response to a question.

Speaking to reporters here, he said talks about replacing the Chief Minister are mere speculations. "There is no such thing," he added. Bommai had replaced Yediyurappa as Chief Minister in July last year.

On Thursday, Bommai had said that he is ready to go to New Delhi to discuss about the state cabinet, as soon as the BJP central leadership calls him.

With the state cabinet meeting that was scheduled to be held on May 5 getting postponed to May 11, speculation is rife that it may be to accommodate expansion or reshuffle of the ministry, amid reports that the BJP high command is expected to arrive at a decision in this regard before May 10.

-PTI

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PVR CINEMAS (Phoenix Marketcity Mall, 9:40, 12:30, 3:20, 6:10, 9:00 p.m. | Forum Mall, Koramangala, 9:40, 12:30, 3:20, 6:10, 9:00 p.m. | Orion Mall, 10:40, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00 p.m. | Vega City, 10:40, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00 p.m.) | CINEPOLIS (Shanthiniketan, 10:30, 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50 p.m.)

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Constitution bench to look at tug-o-war

Apex Court refers tussle between Central, Delhi govts over control on administrative services to Constitution bench

#NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday referred to a constitution bench the power tussle between the Centre and the Delhi government in connection with control over the administrative services.

A bench, headed by Chief Justice N.V. Ramana, said: "The limited issue that has been referred to this Bench, relates to the scope of legislative and executive powers of the Centre and NCT Delhi with respect to the term 'services'. The Constitution Bench of this court, while interpreting Article 239AA(3)(a) of the Constitution, did not find any occasion to specifically interpret the impact of the wordings of the same with respect to Entry 41 in the State List."

The bench, also comprising Justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli, said: "We therefore, deem it appropriate to refer the above limited question, for an authoritative pronouncement by a Constitution Bench in terms of Article 145(3) of the Constitution." It directed the registry to place the papers of the present appeal as well as the connected writ petition before the Chief Justice on the administrative side for constituting a five-judge bench, and fixed the matter for consideration on May 11.

The Centre had moved an application seeking reference of the dispute to a constitution bench keeping in view Article 145(3), on the premise that the erstwhile constitution bench, while construing Article 239AA, has not elucidated on the true meaning and import of the



File photo of AAP president and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal with Delhi Lt Governor Anil Bajjal

expression "in so far as any such matter is applicable to Union Territories" as mentioned in subclause (a) clause (3) of Article 239AA.

In 2018, a constitution bench had ruled that police, land, and public order are the domain of the Centre, and the rest is under the Delhi government. Both have locked horns over control of several wings of administration in the capital.

Senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, representing the Delhi government, emphatically opposed the reference to a larger bench. He said Article 239AA (3) has been exhaustively interpreted by the erstwhile constitution bench, both in explicit as well as in implicit terms. Singhvi

argued that the solitary unresolved issue could be conclusively decided by the present three judges' bench, without any legal necessity to make a further reference to a constitution bench.

Singhvi also posited that the question of interpretation of Article 239AA (3), having been authoritatively settled by the earlier constitution bench, cannot be re-opened on the mere asking of the Centre. The bench noted that the main bone of contention relates to the interpretation of the phrases: "in so far as any such matter is applicable to Union Territories" and "Subject to the provisions of this Constitution" as contained in Article 239AA(3)(a). — IANS

Pawan Hans handover to Star9 Mobility by June

#New Delhi

The handover of loss-making helicopter service provider Pawan Hans to Star9 Mobility Pvt Ltd is likely to get over by June, an official said on Friday.

Star9 Mobility Pvt Ltd, a consortium of Big Charter Private Limited, Maharaja Aviation Private Limited and Almas Global Opportunity Fund SPC, emerged as the highest bidder quoting Rs 211.14 crore, which was above the reserve price of Rs 199.92 crore fixed by the government on the basis of valuation carried out by the transaction adviser and asset valuer.

Refuting allegations in certain quarters that Star9 Mobility Pvt Ltd did not meet the eligibility criteria, the official explained that the networth of the successful bidder consortium was Rs 691 crore against the requirement of Rs 300 crore mandated by the government.

Explaining the process of bidding, the official said that the consortium put in preliminary bids



at the Expression of Interest (EoI) stage in February 2021. Thereafter, in October 2021, the consortium converted itself into a special purpose vehicle (SPV) and put in financial bids.

However, the consortium members have been in business for long. Maharaja Aviation Pvt Ltd and Big Charter Pvt Ltd were incorporated in 2008 and 2014, respectively, while Almas Global Opportunity Fund SPC, under Almas Capital Ltd, has been there since 2017. All three entities are owned by Indian nationals, the official said. — PTI

Honour killing: Panel seeks report from police

#New Delhi

The National Commission for Scheduled Castes on Friday sought a report from the Hyderabad police on the action taken by it in the case of an alleged honour killing in Telangana. B Nagaraju, a Dalit in his mid-20s, was travelling on a motorcycle with his wife while he was confronted by his attackers--Syed Mobin Ahmed and Mohammed Masood Ahmed -- who came on a scooter, stopped the couple and attacked the man in full public view at Saroornagar in Hyderabad. Mobin Ahmed is the woman's brother and Masood

Ahmed is one of their relatives. "Send @TelanganaDGP and @TelanganaCS action taken report to @NCSC_GoI as soon as possible," the commission's chairperson Vijay Sampla said in a tweet.

Nagaraju and his wife were in love with each other for long and they got married in January this year against the wishes of the woman's family members, police said.

Based on preliminary investigation, a senior police official told PTI that Mobin Ahmed was against his sister's relationship with Nagaraju and hence decided to "eliminate" him. — PTI

Deloitte, PWC, EY, and KPMG on a hiring spree in India

#Mumbai

The Big Four professional services firms — Deloitte, PWC, EY, and KPMG — are on a hiring spree in India, prompted by an all-time high demand for consulting services from companies across sectors trying to navigate through rapid technology adoption after the pandemic.

These four top consulting companies and their shared services units in India are likely to hire about 80,000 people in the next 12 months to cater to the demand of business growth and due to high attrition, according to estimates by top company officials and industry insiders.

According to exclusive data shared by specialist staffing firm Xpheno with ET, in the financial year 2021-22, the Big Four and their subsidiaries in the country together created about 55,000 new jobs. About 52,000 of these jobs were created in the technology function

alone, as companies sought professional help amid an accelerated pace of digitisation.

Gross hiring for these companies stood at 88,000 for the fiscal year, including the headcount refill due to an annual attrition rate of about 23%, showed the data.

This was the highest year-on-year headcount growth of 36% in this cohort of companies. "Deloitte, as well as others in this sector, have gone into technology consulting in a big way which requires a lot of people and that is what is triggering the huge demand for manpower," said SV Nathan, partner and chief talent officer, Deloitte India. The company is hiring freshers from campuses as well as relevant talent from across industries.

PwC India added 3,000 jobs last year in line with its plan to create 10,000 additional jobs in the country over a five-year period. This is a part

of the company's new strategy, said Padmaja Alaganandan, chief people officer, PwC India. "Our talent strategy is focused on what we see as the requirements of the market and our clients, with a balance on internally building and lateral hiring for these capabilities," she said.

"Digital transformation, workplaces of the future, environment sustainability and governance (ESG), risk (including cybersecurity) and deals are key areas of focus and we are hiring skills to help us deliver to client needs in these areas," said Alaganandan.

The total net manpower addition at the Big Four and other strategy consultants McKinsey, Grant Thornton, BDO and BCG was 60,000 in FY2022. This eight-entity cohort has registered 28% growth in headcounts, showed the Xpheno data.

The Big Four and their subsidiaries in India currently employ over



The Big Four and their subsidiaries in India employ over 210,000 people

210,000 people in tech and non-tech functions and are likely to double the headcount in the next 2-3 years, according to industry estimates.

The firms have seen a spurt in their revenues in the last two years during the Covid pandemic and are set to generate combined revenue of more than Rs 21,500 crore by

June-end. "Attrition in the consulting services cluster is driven by the buoyancy in the tech services cluster and the consulting sector also drives attrition in the IT services space in return," said Kamal Karanth, co-founder, Xpheno.

— By Rica Bhattacharyya & Sachin Dave for ET



Lemon water may not detox or energise you. But it can have other effects

LEMON SQUEEZY



If you believe anecdotes online, drinking lukewarm water with a splash of lemon juice is detoxifying, energising and soothing.

Water and lemon juice on their own are healthy. But if you combine them, do they become healthier? The really quick answer is, no!

Could drinking lemon water do you any long-lasting harm? It's unlikely.

It contains vitamin C, but do you need extra?

Lemon juice contains vitamin C, a vital nutrient. We've long-known a vitamin C deficiency can lead to scurvy. This condition is most commonly associated with seafarers in history who had no access to fresh fruit and vegetables on long voyages.

More recently, we have seen low levels of vitamin C in Australia, for instance in people admitted to hospital and referred for surgery. But this may not represent vitamin C levels more broadly in the community. In this group of people, the factors that led to their ill health could also have impacted their vitamin C intake.

If your intake of vitamin C is low, drinking lemon water may help. Vitamin C starts to degrade at 30-40 degree Celsius, which would have a small impact on levels in your warm lemon water, but nothing too concerning.

If you have enough vitamin C in your diet, anything extra will be excreted as either vitamin C or oxalate via your urine.

What else can lemon juice do?

Lemon juice may have other

benefits, but research so far has been mixed.

One study found people with high blood lipid (cholesterol) levels who drank lemon juice for eight weeks did not see any changes in their blood pressure, weight or blood lipids levels.

However, in another study, drinking 125mL lemon juice with bread led to a small decrease in blood glucose levels compared to drinking tea or water with the bread. A small study found something similar with drinking 30g lemon juice with water before eating rice.

Researchers suggest the acidity of lemon juice inhibits a

particular enzyme in your saliva (salivary amylase), which usually starts to break down starch in your mouth. So it takes longer for starch to break down to glucose lower in the gut and transported across the intestine wall into your blood. For people with diabetes, this may lead to a reduction in the spikes of blood sugar levels, but it has not as yet been tested.

Other studies indicate there are other nutrients in lemon that may be beneficial for protecting against developing diabetes.

But it is likely you can get the same benefits by adding lemon

juice to your food.

How about detoxing, energising or soothing?

Your body already detoxes without the added "help" of lemon water. It breaks down toxins or excess nutrients in the liver and eliminates those molecules via the kidneys and out into the toilet in your urine.

There is no evidence vitamin C helps this. So any claims lemon water detoxes you are untrue. If you really need a detox, you probably need a liver transplant.

Does lemon juice energise you? Aside from the placebo effect of drinking something you feel is good for you, the short answer is no. However, like most nutrients, if you're not getting enough of them, you could feel sapped of energy.

And as for lemon water being a soothing drink, some people find warm drinks soothing, others prefer cold. The best temperature to drink fluids is the temperature at which you are more likely to drink enough to stay hydrated.

Any possible harms?

As lemon water is acidic, there have been some concerns about its ability to erode tooth enamel. But this is a problem for any acidic beverages, including fizzy drinks and orange juice.

- To minimise the risk of acid erosion, some dentists recommend measures including:
- rinsing out your mouth with tap water after drinking lemon water
- chewing sugar-free gum afterwards to stimulate saliva production
- avoid brushing your teeth immediately after drinking lemon water
- drinking via a straw to avoid contact with the teeth.

Some doctors say lemon water may irritate the bladder and may make some people feel like they need to urinate more often, particularly at night. If that's the case, they recommend switching to plain water.

However one study, which looked at a range of drinks including lemon beverages, found no effects on bladder irritation when people reduced their intake.

Others say lemon water makes acid reflux (heartburn) worse. But this has not been tested.

So, should I drink lemon water?

If you enjoy drinking lemon water, drink it! But if you don't like drinking it, you're not missing out.

You can get your vitamin C from other citrus fruits, as well as other fruit and vegetables. You can also squeeze some lemon juice on your meat, salads or vegetables.

By Evangeline Mantzioris, University of South Australia, The Conversation via PTI



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

My girlfriend has real trust issues and it's very hard to be on the receiving end. When we got together, I hadn't quite broken up with my girlfriend, even though the relationship had been bad for some time. I don't know whether it's this that makes her paranoid or if there's more to it.

We've been together for a few years and can go for weeks or months when things are fine, but then she'll start asking questions like who I've been with and who a phone call was from. She also drops things into conversation like: "It's probably your bit on the side calling". I also know she goes through my phone and computer. It's draining, but I don't know how I can convince her I'm not cheating.

COLEEN SAYS

This is all to do with her insecurities, so she really has to do some work on herself. I think she should start by being honest with you about why she doesn't trust you and why she drops these things into conversation and looks through your phone rather than just talking to you. Yes, maybe some of it is because you were dating her before you'd split with your previous girlfriend, but I think these insecurities probably go deeper than that.

The fact is, you won't be happy if she carries on with this behaviour and, in fact, it'll drive you away. You have to make the point that it's her behaviour that's threatening the relationship and not anything you're doing.

You can reassure her, but it's important you don't keep indulging her. If you have nothing to hide, then have the confidence to stand up for yourself and tell her what you want from the relationship going forward.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson



Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil



Hart of the city



Crankshaft



Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 20

Today, you may be able to implement business plans successfully with the support of your subordinates. You may be involved in some social or family get-together, which may boost your network. You are likely to go for short business-related travels, which may give you benefits in near future.



Leo Jul 24 - Aug 23

Today, during the beginning of the day, you may not be focused towards your work, but with the help of elder's blessings, you may be able to control this messy situation. You may easily find the resources, which might be important for completion of the project. Your sources of income are likely to be increased, your losses may be converted into profits, which may boost your financial health.



Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 22

Today you may feel dull; you may also have some health issues, which is likely to affect your day-to-day work. You may find yourself under mysterious fear, which may make you sensitive and emotional. You are advised to avoid rash driving and adventure tours. You will also be attracted by the occult. You are advised to visit some religious place; chanting mantras or prayers will also give you some relief.



Taurus Apr 21 - May 20

Today will be a good day, your financial health is likely to be good. You may get benefits from your past investments. You may control your spending on worthless stuff, which may boost your savings. Lovebirds are advised to be polite in the conversation with the partner, otherwise there may be some conflicts between them.



Virgo Aug 24 - Sep 23

Today, you will expect some big order from some new client which will increase your liquidity in the business. You are likely to meet some influential person, who may help you to grow your business. Your bonding with the boss may become strong, you may expect some promotions because of hard work. Your prestige may increase now.



Capricorn Dec 23 - Jan 20

Today, you may enjoy with your family. You may spend some romantic moments with the spouse, which may boost understanding with your spouse. You are likely to spend money in buying some artefacts or household stuff to renovate your house. You may enjoy parties and events. You are advised to read documents carefully before making any investments in fixed assets.



Gemini May 21 - Jun 21

Today, you may be busy in issues related to siblings and relatives. You may plan to start some new venture with the help of your siblings and network. You are likely to get an order which may increase your family business. Your network may help you to complete your task successfully. There may be some smart gains after a little effort.



Libra Sep 24 - Oct 22

Today, you will be blessed by your elders which may give you patience. You are likely to be happy and calm. You may plan to visit some spiritual place for seeking peace of mind. You may also donate some amount to a spiritual place for development. There may be some chances for an overseas trip.



Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

Today you may feel happy and energetic. You may explore and analyse yourself, which may give you confidence and you are likely to be able to face any type of challenges, which may make you fearless and courageous. You are advised to remain patient in taking some financial decisions in business. Lovebirds may enjoy their happy moments.



Cancer Jun 22 - July 23

Today will not be a good day for you. You may be a victim of negative thoughts. You may be impatient. Your arrogance may push you back from taking difficult decisions. You may be stuck in a rut; you may be in need of blessings from your elders which may help you to come back from messy situation. Avoid investments in dead assets. Lovebirds should avoid discussing worthless topics.



Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 22

Today, you may not be able to enjoy your work life as well as family life. You are advised to avoid arrogance and ego with your spouse otherwise it may affect your emotional bonding. Problems in partnerships are likely to be resolved. Singles are advised to avoid hurrying before making decisions related to marriage. With the help of patience, you may come out from the messy situation.



Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

Today is a good day for you; your enthusiasm may be at its peak; you need to regulate your enthusiasm. Self-analysis may help you to be confident, which may increase your prestige in society. You will resolve many problems with the help of communication skills. Investors are advised to avoid speculation before making investments. You may also plan for higher studies for a good career.



KIDZONE



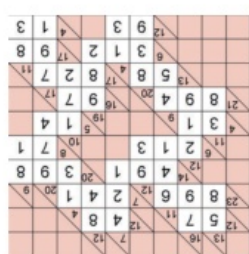
Vijay, 12 Years, Excellent English School



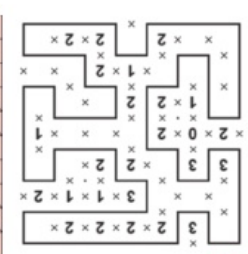
Dhruva Anurag, 5 Years, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

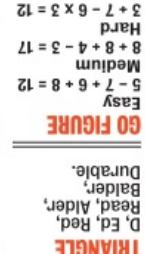
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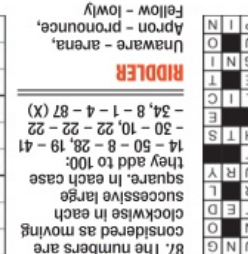
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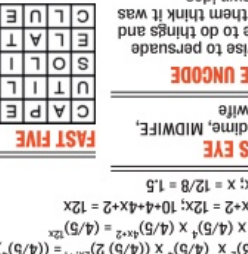
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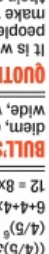
QUICK



STRIKE OUT



BULLS' EYE



QUOTE UNCODE



Waiting for Rambo

Tiger Shroff recently spilled some beans on his much-awaited film, 'Rambo'. Tiger said that he is very much looking forward to 'Rambo' that has been in the making for a very long time now

SENSE OF PURPOSE

What drives Tabu's passion for work

With two National awards, a Padma Shri honour, several other accolades and an illustrious body of work by her side, one may wonder what keeps Tabu inspired and find passion in her work, every single day. The answer is pretty simple - to find a purpose in her work and work towards the goal.

The actor, who can be heard playing the narrator in the Hindi audio adaptation of English author Neil Gaiman's 'The Sandman', recently spoke with news agency about what inspires her as an artiste, the roles that have given her emotional catharsis in a career spanning almost four decades and the challenges of working in the medium of audio podcast.

Monotony can easily seep in a work environment

of any nature but not for her as she sticks to her mantra of pursuing the purpose. She mentions, "In a profession you have to find a purpose which makes you go to work everyday passionately. And I think our profession (acting) is fortunately a space which provides you an opportunity to learn everyday and to work with different people everyday (in addition to playing different characters)."

Furthering her point, she says, "Everyone has their different perspectives (in a collaborative medium of filmmaking) and this automatically becomes a new experience for you which gets rid of the regular monotony. The hunger for growing in your own craft and journey as a creative person is the purpose which you have to go ahead with."

— IANS



Who's coming for coffee?

Karan Johar's 'Koffee with Karan' is returning back with the seventh season and fans just can't keep calm. Recently, Karan left everyone in shock when he announced that his talk show will not return. Later, he ended up releasing a new statement saying that the show will stream on an OTT platform and not on TV. Reportedly, Ranveer Singh and Alia Bhatt will shoot for the first episode next week.

The latest report suggests that the talk show will also feature 'Pushpa' stars Allu Arjun and Rashmika Mandanna. The duo impressed everyone

with their solid performances and interesting storyline.

According to Pinkvilla, the team has already reached out to Allu Arjun and Rashmika, and they are quite excited about it. It is being said that the makers have kept it well-balanced to attract South audiences and the viewers will be amazed by the guest list of this season.

Meanwhile, Karan released a statement recently that read, "Koffee With Karan will not be returning... on TV!" The show will now be streaming on an OTT platform, he said. —ETimes

What ticked Kayne off

When last year American media personality Kim Kardashian hosted 'Saturday Night Live', her joke during the opening monologue about ex-husband Kanye West made it seem like the duo were on relatively good terms even amidst their divorce, however, things weren't as they were perceived. According to Variety, Kim quipped at the time about West, "I married the best rapper of all time. Not only that, he's the richest Black man in America," she said onstage. "A talented, legit genius who gave me four incredible kids. So, when I divorced him, you have to know it came down to just one thing: his personality."

In the latest episode of Hulu's "The Kardashians," the star revealed that West actually walked out of her monologue and stopped talking to her after that because of the jokes.

"He walked out on 'SNL' like mid-monologue, so I haven't talked to him since," Kim spoke to his sister Khloe Kardashian in a conversation recorded in October 2021 in the latest episode of the Hulu series



released today. "He's upset over the fact that I said the reason I divorced him -- used the word 'divorced' -- he wished I'd said the word 'filed for divorce,'" Kim said in the scene. "And he's upset that I also used the word 'rapper.' I'm so much more than a rapper. I can't believe you said rapper," he said.

Kim expressed to Khloe that she was sad that West had left the show, since she stayed by his side while he had been speaking for years (which is usually controversial and negative media attention).

"I've sat there through so many speeches that have not been the most comfortable for me," Kim said on the show.

—ANI

Time to improvise, Yami says

Actor Yami Gautam believes films from the South are turning out to be pan-India successes as filmmakers are able to share their vision without any hurdle. The 'Dasvi' actor said directors in the Hindi film industry still find it difficult to have a free hand when bringing their perspective on screen.

"This is time to improvise and work on what we need to do," Yami said. The 33-year-old actor asserts producers are still interested in backing projects with big stars as they sideline story-oriented films.

"My husband, Aditya (Dhar), who directed 'Uri', even after three years of the film's release, is working on one of his most ambitious films. But for him to explain his vision to producers... There were just two or three who understood that and are working towards it," she said.

"The director needs more free hand in expressing their vision. We need

to focus more on the story and the script... We need to straighten our priorities," the actor added.

Citing examples of the films like the 'Baahubali' franchise, 'KGF' series, 'Pushpa' and 'RRR', Yami said these films prove that producers trusted their directors and the story.

"The actors who are there (in these films) are huge stars, especially in the southern film industry, and have a pan-India audience. I don't think that it stopped them anywhere. They believed in the director's vision and went for it," she added.

Rather than considering films from the South competition, the

actor said she is happy that stories in other languages are also becoming popular in North India.

— PTI

